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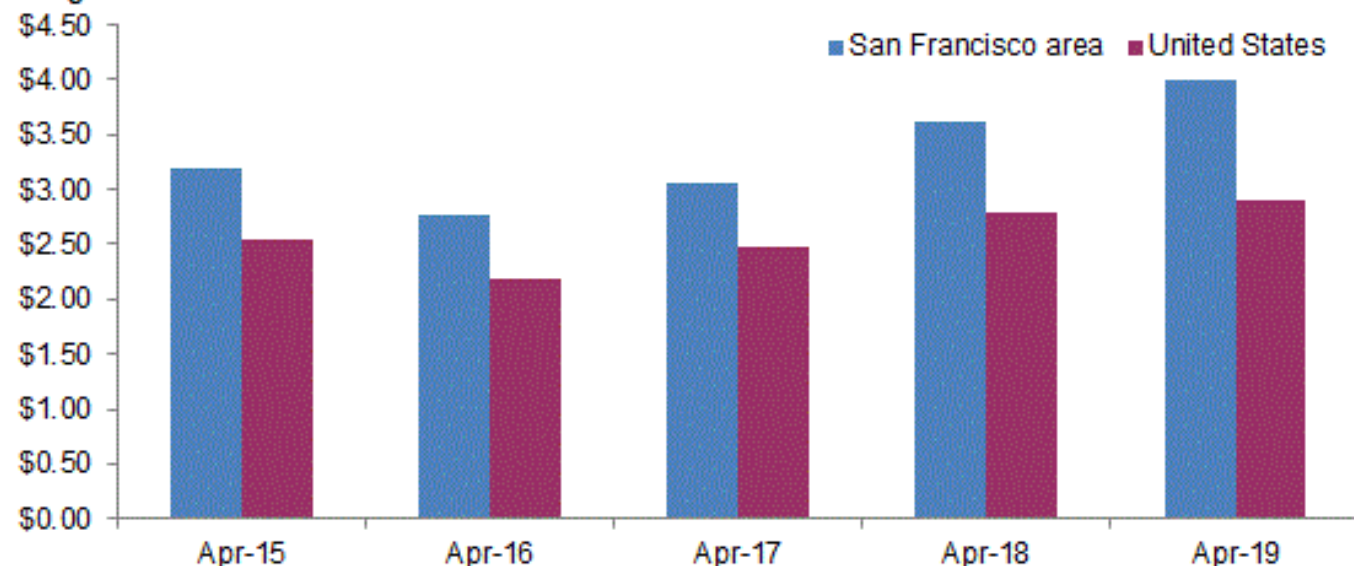
Average Energy Prices, San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward – April 2019

Gasoline prices averaged \$3.997 a gallon in the San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward area in April 2019, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that area gasoline prices were 37.3 cents higher than last April when they averaged \$3.624 per gallon. San Francisco area households paid an average of 21.1 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) of electricity in April 2019, similar to the 20.5 cents per kWh paid in April 2018. The average cost of utility (piped) gas at \$1.624 per therm in April was similar to the \$1.615 per therm spent last year. (Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year-analysis is used throughout.)

At \$3.997 a gallon, San Francisco area consumers paid 38.1 percent more than the \$2.894 national average in April 2019. A year earlier, consumers in the San Francisco area paid 29.7 percent more than the national average for a gallon of gasoline. The local price of a gallon of gasoline has ranged from 23.7 to 38.1 percent above the national average in the month of April during the past five years. (See [chart 1](#).)

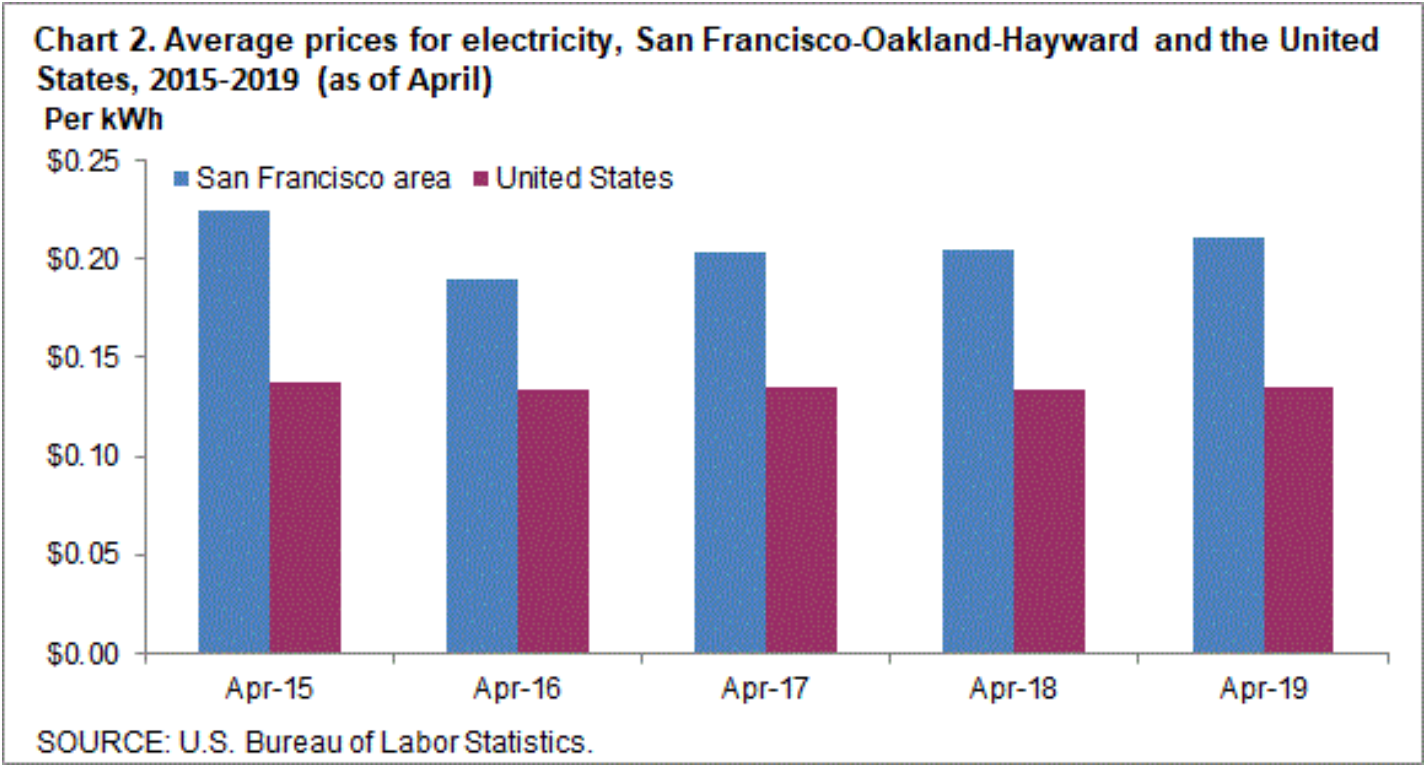
Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward and the United States, 2015-2019 (as of April)

Per gallon

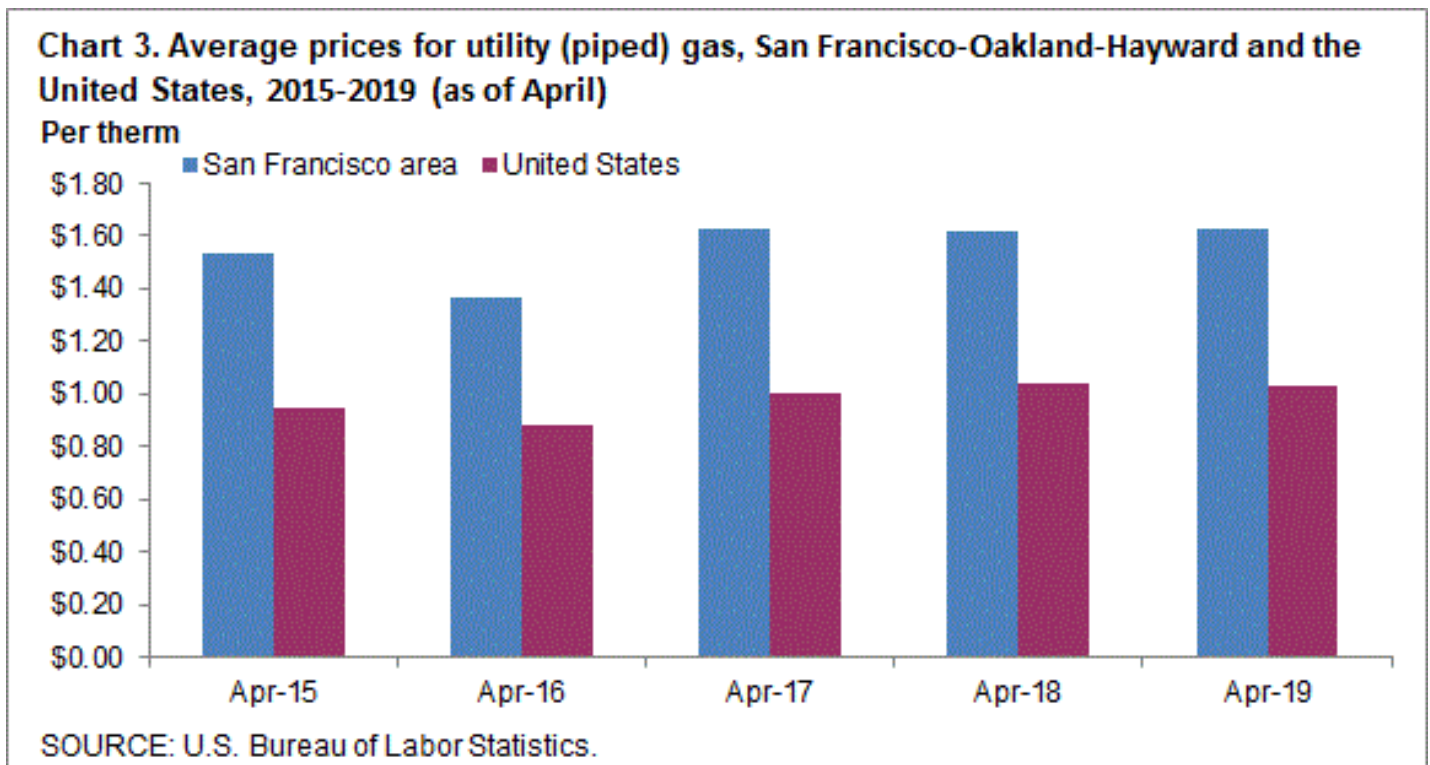


SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 21.1 cents per kWh San Francisco households paid for electricity in April 2019 was 56.3 percent more than the nationwide average of 13.5 cents per kWh. Last April, electricity costs were 53.0 percent higher in San Francisco compared to the nation. In each of the past five years, prices paid by San Francisco area consumers for electricity exceeded the U.S. average by at least 41.8 percent in the month of April. (See [chart 2.](#))



Prices paid by San Francisco area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, were \$1.624 per therm, or 57.1 percent above the national average in April 2019 (\$1.034 per therm). A year earlier, area consumers paid 54.7 percent more per therm for natural gas compared to the nation. In the past five years, the per therm cost for natural gas in April in the San Francisco area has varied between 54.7 percent and 63.2 percent above the U.S. average. (See [chart 3.](#))



The San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, Calif. metropolitan area consists of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo Counties in California.

Technical Note

Average prices are estimated from Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for selected commodity series to support the research and analytic needs of CPI data users. Average prices for electricity, utility (piped) gas, and gasoline are published monthly for the U.S. city average, the 4 regions, 9 divisions, 2 population size classes, 8 region/size-class cross-classifications, and the 23 largest local index areas. For electricity, average prices per kilowatt-hour (kWh) are published. For utility (piped) gas, average prices per therm, are published. For gasoline, the average price per gallon is published. Average prices for commonly available grades of gasoline are published as well as the average price across all grades.

All eligible prices are converted to a price per normalized quantity. These prices are then used to estimate a price for a defined fixed quantity. The average price per kilowatt-hour represents the total bill divided by the kilowatt-hour usage. The total bill is the sum of all items applicable to all consumers appearing on an electricity bill including, but not limited to, variable rates per kWh, fixed costs, taxes, surcharges, and credits. This calculation also applies to the average price per therm for utility (piped) gas.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 800-877-8339.

Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward and the United States, April 2018-April 2019, not seasonally adjusted

| Year and month | Gasoline per gallon | | Electricity per kWh | | Utility (piped) gas per therm | |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| | San Francisco area | United States | San Francisco area | United States | San Francisco area | United States |
| 2018 | | | | | | |
| April | \$3.624 | \$2.795 | \$0.205 | \$0.134 | \$1.615 | \$1.044 |
| May..... | 3.796 | 2.963 | 0.211 | 0.136 | 1.538 | 1.050 |
| June..... | 3.803 | 2.970 | 0.211 | 0.139 | 1.485 | 1.042 |
| July | 3.790 | 2.930 | 0.211 | 0.139 | 1.515 | 1.038 |
| August | 3.764 | 2.919 | 0.211 | 0.139 | 1.577 | 1.055 |
| September..... | 3.766 | 2.930 | 0.214 | 0.138 | 1.547 | 1.030 |
| October..... | 3.911 | 2.945 | 0.214 | 0.136 | 1.415 | 1.023 |
| November..... | 3.829 | 2.733 | 0.209 | 0.134 | 1.240 | 1.020 |
| December..... | 3.674 | 2.479 | 0.209 | 0.135 | 1.313 | 1.085 |
| 2019 | | | | | | |
| January..... | 3.543 | 2.352 | 0.206 | 0.135 | 1.381 | 1.082 |
| February..... | 3.478 | 2.412 | 0.206 | 0.136 | 1.405 | 1.051 |
| March | 3.598 | 2.620 | 0.208 | 0.135 | 1.336 | 1.048 |
| April | 3.997 | 2.894 | 0.211 | 0.135 | 1.624 | 1.034 |